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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Farm Security Administration
Auburn, Alabama
March 27, 1946

To: Associate FSA Supervisors (Home)
Districts III and V

From: Virginia C. Coker, Area HM Supervisor

Subject: 6-F7 - Home Improvement

The attached mimeographed material is being sent for suggestions only to help in carrying out your Home Improvement program that we started last September. As you will recall, special emphasis is to be placed on the Living Room and Kitchen for 1946. The sketches are not artistic, drawn to scale or accurate, but are for suggestions and ideas only. However, they can be used to fit any individual family situation or problem by your help. There are many families who will appreciate this information.

The sketches were made from articles found on display at annual FO meetings in some counties, suggestions and sketches from home supervisors, original sketches by Area HM Supervisor as well as articles or pieces of furniture observed in various RR and FO homes.

Too, some of the sketches were made from articles on display at the district home improvement meetings held at Andalusia and Auburn in September, 1945, as well as various other sources.

We hope you have made or will make plans to do some individual work in home improvement for those families who need it in addition to your Home Improvement Adjustments set up in your "County Work Plan", but be sure to get those done.

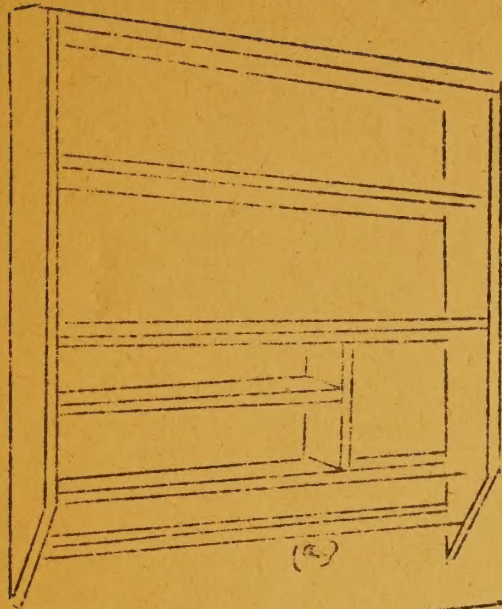
This material should be carried on all visits in order to give suggestions at the opportune time.

Attachments

Virginia C Coker

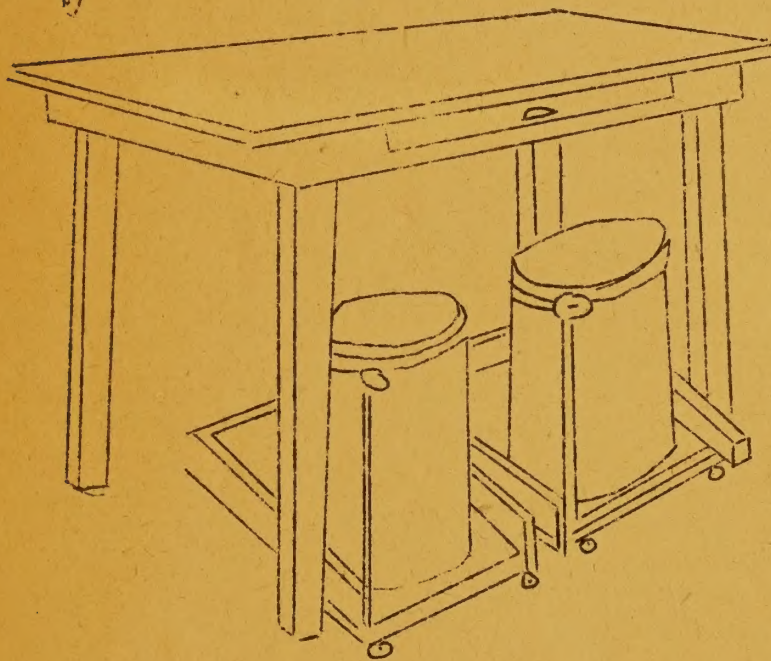
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LOW COST KITCHEN WORK CENTERS

Shelf unit built with shelves spaced for articles of varied sizes.

(a) Lowest shelf 2 in. wide for spices.

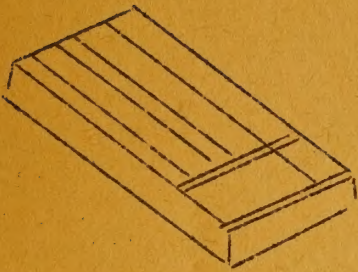


Lard cans on flat carts provide for flour and meal. (Cans may be painted necessary color to harmonize with kitchen colors.)

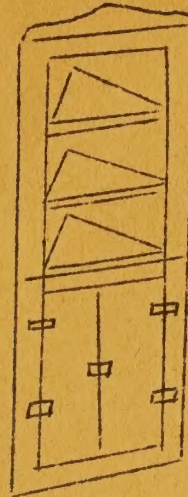
Work Table



KITCHEN GADGETS FOR CONVENIENCE

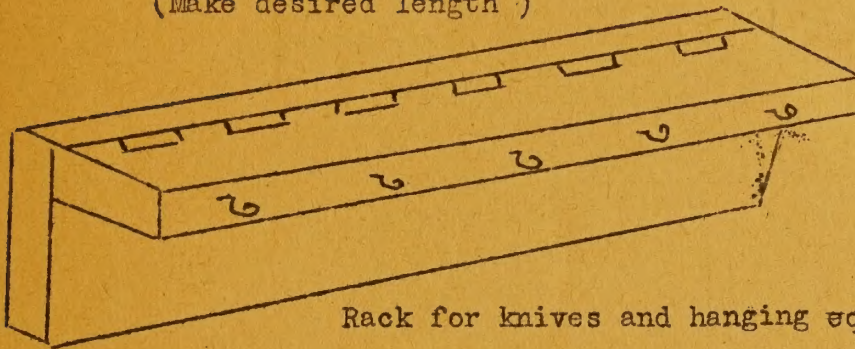


Keep your kitchen drawers neat. Separate knives, forks, spoons, etc. Space division will depend on size of your items. Measure to be sure you have enough room.

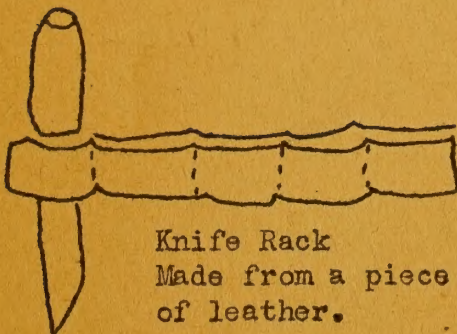
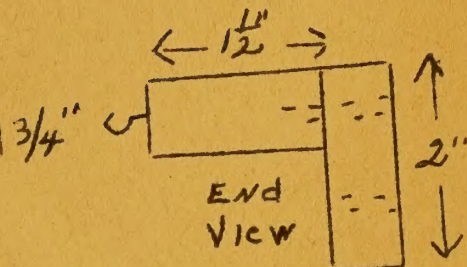


Corner cabinets often give much needed storage space.

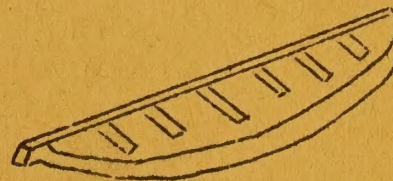
(Make desired length)



Rack for knives and hanging equipment.



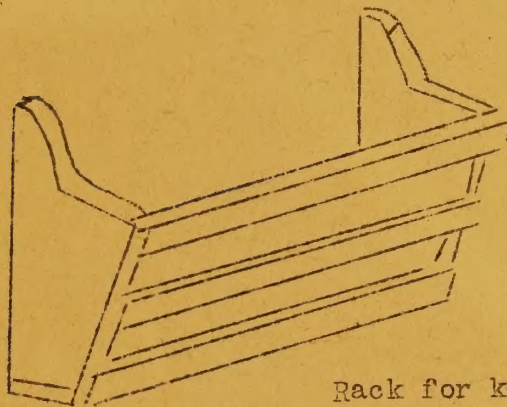
Knife Rack
Made from a piece
of leather.



Knife rack made from wood.



Four-piece canister set - Useful for storing sugar, coffee, rice, etc. Made from coffee can, small syrup bucket, or other tin can available. The first two coats of paint should be flat paint, then cover with enamel. Add colorful design and cover with varnish or shellac whichever you have.



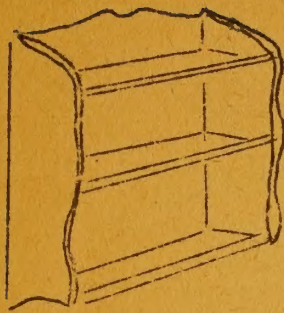
Rack for kettle and boiler tops.



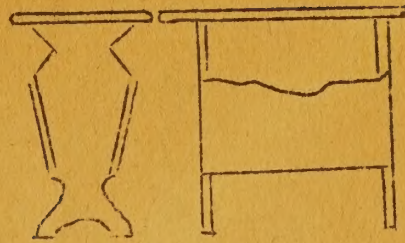
Stepladder and kitchen stool combination

Handwritten text in a stylized script, possibly a signature or a short phrase, located in the upper center of the page.

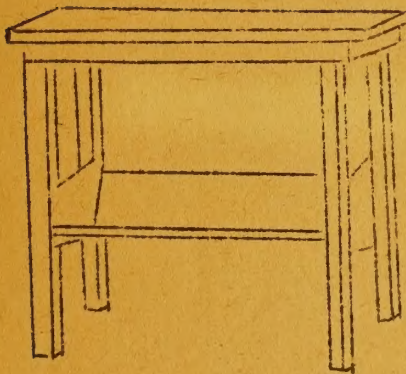
HOMEMADE LIVING ROOM FURNITURE



Hanging Shelves

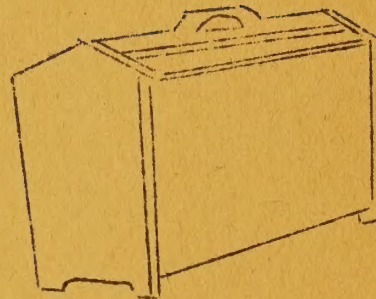


Magazine Stand



Table

End table, radio table or table desk. What about using a hanging shelf above this table?



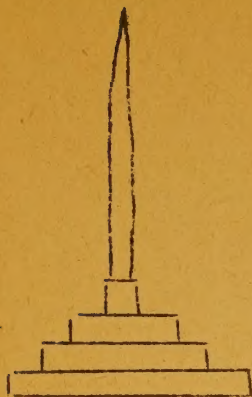
Magazine Rack

(Made of apple or orange crate)



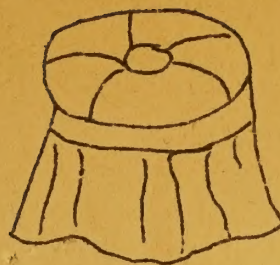
Medicine Cabinet
(Made from orange crate)

One or two shelves may be added. This will be a good device to take care of medicine and some of the other things found on the mantel.



Candle Holder

Made from blocks of wood. Each successive block gets smaller. Paint a bright attractive color.

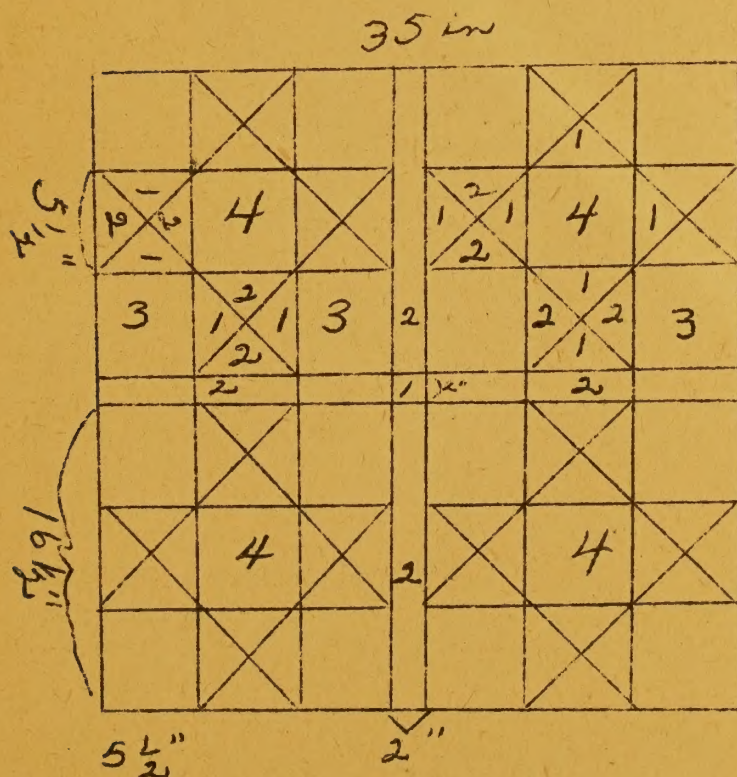


Footstool

(Maybe round or oblong)

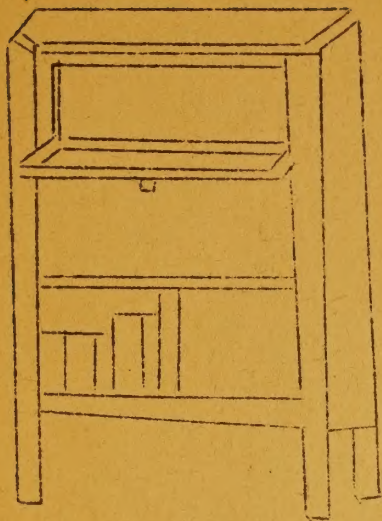
Padded top. Made from scraps of figured and plain material. Skirt maybe made of either, depending on color scheme desired.

Living Room Curtains or draperies made of scraps and feed sacks. Each square is $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. long. An additional amount has to be allowed for seams. After the small squares are sewed together the pattern is about $16\frac{1}{2}$ in. complete. The border is 2 in. wide plus seams and $16\frac{1}{2}$ in. long.

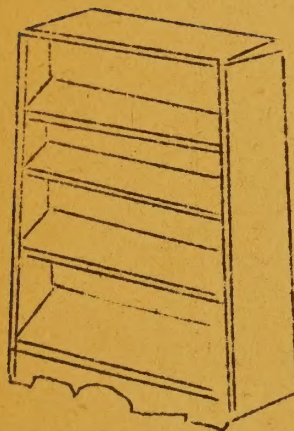


- 1 - Print
- 2 - Solid
- 3 - Feed sack or muslin
- 4 - Print # 2

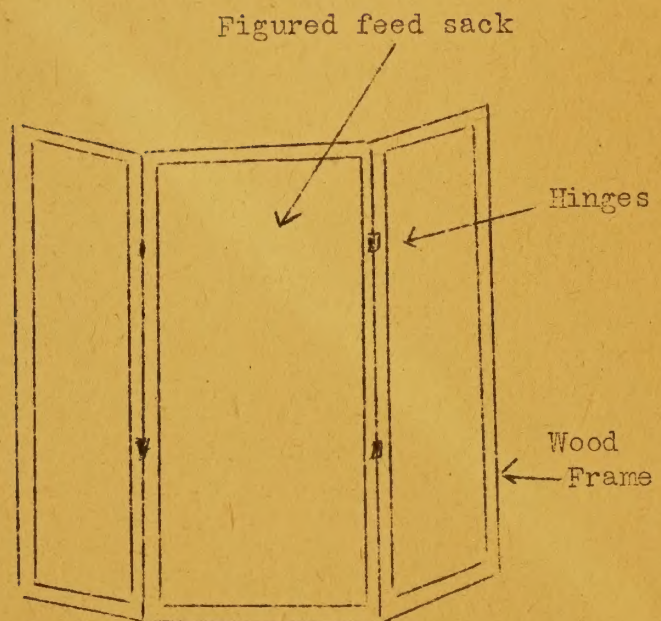
Make desired length for your windows and line with sacks.



Bookshelf and Desk combination.
The cover for the top shelf drops
down and may be used as a desk.



Bookcase
(Stain and shellac)



Firescreen

